

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, LE, IS

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF CONTINUING PALESTINIAN INFILTRATION
INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON
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REFS: A)JERUSALEM 1592; B)BEIRUT 3161(NOTAL)

1. WE WOULD APPRECIATE USUN DISCUSSING ONCE AGAIN WITH
URQUHART OR GUYER THE REPORTS OF A GROWING PALESTINIAN
PRESENCE SOUTH OF THE LITANI AND THE ACTIONS BEING TAKEN
BY UNIFIL TO PREVENT SUCH A BUILD-UP. WE RECOGNIZE THAT

LEBANESE ESTIMATE OF 1,000 PALESTINIANS IN THE SOUTH MAY BE BASED ON SCANTY INTELLIGENCE, AND THAT UN ESTIMATES OF FROM 200 (REF A) TO 500 (REF B) ARE PROBABLY CLOSER TO THE MARK. NEVERTHELESS, BOUTROS' BASIC POINT -- THAT LEBANESE GOVERNMENT CANNOT TELL HADDAD TO STAY INACTIVE SO LONG AS UNIFIL CANNOT GUARANTEE NON-INFILTRATION SOUTH BY PALESTINIANS -- SEEMS TO US A COMPELLING ONE. GIVEN UNIFIL'S MANDATE TO RESTORE LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY TO THE SOUTH, BOUTROS' REQUEST THAT UNIFIL GUARANTEE PALESTINIAN NON-INFILTRATION WOULD SEEM CONTROLLING.

2. YOU SHOULD REQUEST UN'S BEST ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF PALESTINIANS SOUTH OF THE LITANI. YOU SHOULD RECALL

OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT WHILE SUPPLIES OF FOOD AND CLOTHING WOULD BE PERMITTED, NO FURTHER PALESTINIANS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO MOVE SOUTH. PLEASE ASK IF EFFORTS AT CLANDESTINE INFILTRATION ARE CONTINUING, AND IF SO, HOW SUCCESSFUL ARE UNIFIL CONTINGENTS IN PREVENTING THEM? WHAT PROCEDURES ARE NOW IN EFFECT FOR ENSURING THAT PALESTINIANS IN EXCESS OF THOSE PRESENTLY IN THE SOUTH DO NOT ENTER THROUGH THE ESTABLISHED CHECK POINTS? ARE THE PROCEDURES FOR CROSS-CHECKING NAMES, ETC., EARLIER DESCRIBED TO US UN EFFECTIVE IN BLOCKING INFILTRATION? IN SUM, IS THE UN IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE BOUTROS WITH THE KIND OF GUARANTEE HE WANTS

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AND, IF NOT, HOW CAN IT ACHIEVE SUCH A POSITION?

3. WE BELIEVE LEBANON'S REQUEST FOR FORMAL MEETING OF ILMAC JUNE 11 IS A GOOD SIGN. YOU SHOULD REITERATE TO UN OUR HOPE THAT THESE MEETINGS WILL BE ENCOURAGED SINCE ILMAC IS THE ONE FORMAL MECHANISM FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND LEBANON.

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